

United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia

Jeffrey A. Taylor United States Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, February 18, 2009 USAO Public Affairs (202) 514-6933 www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc

Northwest Washington man convicted of February 2008 shooting

WASHINGTON – United States Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor announced that on February 17, 2009, Manuel Nunez-Sandoval, 25, of Northwest Washington, D.C., was found guilty by a jury in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of Assault with Intent to Kill while Armed, Aggravated Assault while Armed, two counts of Possession of a Firearm During a Crime of Violence and Carrying a Pistol without a License, for the February 20, 2008, shooting of a 19-year-old man. Nunez faces a statutory minimum of ten years' incarceration for these crimes when he is sentenced by the Honorable Gerald I. Fisher on April 17, 2009. After completion of his sentence, Nunez, an illegal alien, faces deportation to El Salvador.

The government's evidence at trial established that on February 20, 2008, Nunez and an unknown man were involved in an argument with the victim in the case. That argument occurred in front of Nunez's apartment building in the 1400 block of Otis Place, NW (PSA 302). Following the argument, Nunez went into the apartment building and changed the clothes that he was seen wearing. Minutes later, Nunez came out of the building wearing a hooded sweatshirt. Nunez approached the victim, who remained in the block. Nunez pulled a revolver and shot the victim in the upper chest. As the victim fell to the pavement, Nunez walked closer to him and fired four additional shots, striking him in the back. Nunez then ran away. The shooting was witnessed by a man who testified that he recognized Nunez from the neighborhood. That witness identified Nunez in court as the person who shot the victim. Additionally, two witnesses testified that they later overheard Nunez bragging

about shooting the victim while in a bar near where the shooting occurred.

In announcing the verdict, U.S. Attorney Taylor commended several officers of the Metropolitan Police Department, including Detectives Joe Crespo and William Covington, Investigator Richard Feser, Crime Scene Search Officers Nathaniel Davis and Edward Roach, and Officers Matthew Mahl, Martin Garrison and Eliseo Medina. Finally, U.S. Attorney Taylor thanked Intelligence Research Specialist Larry Grasso, Paralegals Kalisha Johnson-Clark and Tamaya Reid, Litigation Services Technicians Janay Jones and Thomas "Ron" Royal, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys B. Patrick Costello who investigated and indicted the case, and Edward A. O'Connell, who tried the case.

###